

1971

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

of the

East Dereham Urban District Council

of

EAST DEREHAM

Norfolk

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STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

L.G. Poole, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.&H.

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR


C. Mc.D. O'Donnell, M.B.E., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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EAST DEREHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1971

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1971.

East Dereham Urban District occupies approximately the geographic centre of Norfolk and consists of 5,313 acres. The main industries are clock making, furniture making and engineering.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area in acres	5,313 acres.
Estimated mid 1971 population	9,350
Estimated mid 1970 population	8,420
Rateable value April 1st 1971	£384,769
Estimated product of Penny Rate 1971	£1,514.17

There were 141 live births of which 14 were illegitimate. This is 9.9% of the total births.

The birth rate of 16.0 is the same as that for England and Wales.

There were 110 deaths, giving a natural increase (births-deaths) of 31. There were no infant deaths.

The death rate of 9.4 is lower than that for England and Wales (11.6). Ten deaths occurred below the age of 55. 55.5% of deaths occurred in persons over 75 years of age.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

L.G. Poole, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.&H.
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>ENGLAND & WALES:</u>
Live Births	141	140	117	783,165
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	16.0	17.6	14.7	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	10	7	2.57	8
Still Births	1	-	3	9,898
Total Still and live Births.	142	140	120	793,063
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	-	2	-	13,726
<u>Infant Mortality Rates:</u>				
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 live births.	-	14	-	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.	-	15	-	17
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	-	-	-	24
Neonatal Mortality Rate: (deaths under 4 wks. per 1,000 live births)	-	14	-	12
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	-	14	-	10
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 total births.	7	14	25	22
Maternal Mortality.	-	-	-	
Deaths all ages.	110	115	120	567,345
Death rate (adjusted) per 1,000 population	9.4	11.0	11.4	11.6

CAUSES OF DEATH:

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	3	2	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine.	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	9	2	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	2	2
Leukaemia.	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms.	3	1	4
Other Diseases of Nervous System.	1	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	1	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease.	11	11	22
Other Forms of Heart Disease.	4	2	6
Cerebrovascular Disease.	7	15	22
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	2	2	4
Pneumonia	5	5	10
Bronchitis and Emphysema.	2	1	3
Peptic Ulcer.	1	-	1

(CONT'D).....

CAUSES OF DEATH: (CONT'D)...

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Appendicitis.	-	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia.	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System.	-	2	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	-	1	1
All other Accidents.	2	-	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries.	2	-	2
All other external causes.	1	-	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES:-	59	51	110

Of the total of 110 deaths, 100 deaths (90.9%) occurred over the age of 55 years. In the 55-64 years age group, there were 11 deaths (10%); ages 65-74 years there were 28 deaths (25.4%) and in the over 75 years age group, there were 61 deaths (55.5%).

Malignant Disease:

Cancer caused 29 deaths (26.4% of all deaths). Of these 29 deaths, there were 11 from lung cancer i.e. 37.9% of the cancer deaths were due to lung cancer. This type of cancer caused 10% of all deaths in Dereham.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
Measles	7	2	4	91	85
Whooping Cough	74	2	1	4	46
Food Poisoning	3	2	-	1	1
Acute Meningitis	2	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER:

		1971	1970	1969	1968	1967
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Male	14	14	13	12	16
	Female	11	11	10	10	9
	Total	25	25	23	22	25
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Male	2	2	2	3	3
	Female	5	5	5	5	5
	Total	7	7	7	8	8
GRAND TOTAL		32	32	30	30	33

IMMUNISATION SCHEMES:

Immunisation against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, poliomyelitis, measles, German measles and tuberculosis, are offered by the County Council as the responsible Health authority.

In October 1968 the immunisation schedule was changed. Primary immunisation with the Triple Antigen (whooping cough, diphtheria and Tetanus) and oral poliomyelitis vaccine is commenced on the third or fourth month of life, and the second dose is given two months later, and the third dose six months later. This scheme gives adequate protection so that the "booster" dose of antigen 13 months after the primary course is no longer necessary.

The reinforcing dose of diphtheria/tetanus antigen given at 5 years of age boosts the level of immunity. School leavers in the penultimate term are given a further reinforcing dose of tetanus toxoid. In the present state of our knowledge, it cannot be too strongly emphasised that the level of immunity by reinforcing doses of tetanus toxoid be maintained.

The following tables show the various immunising procedures undertaken in the Urban District in 1971.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION:

Age at date of vaccination	Number vaccinated	Number revaccinated
0-3 months	5	-
3-6 months	-	-
6-9 months	-	-
9-12 months	-	-
1 year	17	-
2-4 years	11	1
5-15 years	5	5
	39	6

MEASLES VACCINATION:

Year of Birth	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-1967	Others Under 16	Total
Totals	-	24	12	11	23	1	71

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION:

Course	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-1967	Others Under 16	Total
Primary	-	81	8	-	5	-	94
Reinforcing	1	1	4	2	74	173	254

Type of Vaccine	Course	1970	1969	1968	1964-1967	Others Under 16	Total
Diphtheria Tetanus & Whooping Cough	Primary Reinfg.	58 1	9 2	- 2	2 11	- 2	69 18
Diphtheria Tetanus	Primary Reinfg.	1 -	- -	- -	1 59	- 6	2 65
Diphtheria	Primary Reinfg.	- -	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- 1
Tetanus	Primary Reinfg.	- -	- -	- -	1 2	1 155	2 157

B.C.G. IMMUNISATION:

Immunisation against tuberculosis is offered to boys and girls who are in their fourteenth year of age. The injection is given at school.

No. of children eligible	234
No. of acceptances	201
No. of children heard tested	189
No. of tests read.	178
No. of tests positive.	8
Tuberculin index.	4.50%

RUBELLA IMMUNISATION:

Immunisation against German measles is offered to girls who are in their fourteenth year of age. This immunisation is also given at school.

Birth Year

No. Vaccinated.

1957	8
1958	95
1959	2

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HOUSING OFFICER FOR 1971.

COUNCIL HOUSE DEVELOPMENTS

Littlefields Development

24 - 3 bedroom, 5 person houses and 22 - 2 bedroom, 3 person bungalows were completed on the Stage II Littlefields Development leaving 3 houses and 6 bungalows to complete this Contract.

Future developments at the planning stage are as follows:-

Albert Myhill Close Stage II

14 Old Person, 1 bedroom bungalows:

Bell Yard

6 - 1 bedroom, Old Person flats and 3, 1 bedroom Old Person bungalows:

Baxter's Row

8 - 1 bedroom flats.

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT

The number of dwellings completed in 1971 by private enterprise was as follows:-

4 bedroom dwellings (or more)	2
3 bedroom dwellings	63
2 bedroom dwellings	13

COUNCIL HOUSE DEVELOPMENT

The number of Council dwellings completed in 1971 was as follows:-

3 bedroom houses	24
2 bedroom bungalows	22

The number of dwellings under construction was 9.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The number of approvals for improvement grants issued in 1971 was 39, and the number completed 18.

The following amenities were provided:-

Baths	17
Wash Basins	17
Sinks	12
Hot water installations	18
W.C.	17

The amount of Grant paid in respect of these works was £5,610.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:

1. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Stage I of the new Sewage Purification plant was commissioned in April and apart from a few teething problems the project can be rated as a success. The works is traditional in design and differs from the old plant in its treatment of sludge by mechanical pressing which is an acceptable human task as opposed to drying on open beds. There are no smells from the plant and the effluent is well in advance of the required standards.

The number of properties from which night soil is collected has been reduced to single figures.

2. PUBLIC CLEANSING

In April the Council changed from skep to polythene bin liner refuse collection for the whole of their district and at the same time introduced an incentive bonus for the collectors to assist in financing the scheme. The service is efficient and clean and the Council are to be congratulated on being one of the first Authorities in the area to institute such high standards of hygiene.

Streets and footpaths are mechanically scavenged on a rota base varying from daily to fortnightly depending on road classification and location.

3. CLEAN AIR

Informal action solved the smoke problem which occurred during the year.

4. CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES

Individual caravans are licensed to stand in private gardens and there is a residential site for seven caravans.

5. MILK SUPPLY

The general standard of milk production and supply was satisfactory and problems were dealt with informally.

6. ICE CREAM

No customer complaints were received and sampling revealed no contravention of standards.

7. FOOD HYGIENE

The hygiene standards and facilities provided at food premises in the new shopping precinct opened in the town centre during the year are being matched by improvements in many other long established businesses throughout the town. Supervision and control is good but constant inspection is still necessary to ensure personal cleanliness of some food handlers.

8. THE FOLLOWING CANNED AND OTHER FOODS WERE VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED.

277 lbs. meat and meat products
108 lbs. fish and fish products
22½ lbs. poultry and poultry products
10 lbs. sausages and sausage meat
71 lbs vegetables
16½ lbs. pastry
20 Nos. mousse
4 Nos. sponges
3 Nos. trifles.

9. MEAT INSPECTION

Meat sold in the town is imported from private and public abattoirs. Diseased meat is rarely found.

10. AGRICULTURAL WORK

No problems arose from employment of seasonal labour.

11. OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES

Thirteen new businesses were registered during the year, bringing the total to one hundred and eleven. Thirty seven establishments were inspected and minor contraventions corrected.

12. PEST CONTROL

The benefit of a winter survey and treatment was again borne out by a reduction in reports of rats and mice. Over 100 wasps nests were destroyed.

13. HOUSING

The Council accepted an undertaking not to relet one unfit dwelling from which the tenant was rehoused. Informal action secured works to keep other properties in a fit state for habitation.

14. FACTORIES ACT 1961

PART I

Premises	No.	Insp.	No. of Notices	Prosecutions
(i)	1			
(ii)	46	19	NIL	NIL
(iii)				

15. DEFECTS

	Found	Remedied	Referred
Inadequate Ventilation	1	1	NIL
Total	1	1	NIL

